

Office of Probation Administration

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OVERVIEW OF STANDARDIZED MODEL FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

Policy Summary –

It is Probation's intent to provide a meaningful opportunity for offender rehabilitation in an effort to reduce recidivism, promote good citizenship, and enhance public safety. The Model is designed to ensure that communication between probation officers and providers is consistent, open and focused on criminogenic risk and need factors that, when reduced, will improve the offender's ability to live a productive and crime-free life.

Required Use –

Nebraska Supreme Court rule (copy attached) requires compliance with all elements of the Model for substance abuse evaluations and treatment referrals ordered for adult felony drug offenders by the courts of the State of Nebraska, including drug courts or other similar specialized programs operating pursuant to an inter-local agreement, if some or all of the cost for such evaluation or treatment referral is reimbursed by funds provided pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 29-2262.07 or Community Corrections Council funds made available by the Council to Probation Administration. Use of the Model is recommended by the Supreme Court for all other offenders in Nebraska courts where evaluations and treatment referrals are ordered.

Elements of the Standardized Model:

Screening

Probation officers use a standard Simple Screening Instrument (SSI), alone or in combination with Probation's computerized assessment instruments, to determine the presence of a current substance abuse problem and identify the need for further evaluation.

Risk Assessment

Probation officers use a Standardized Risk Assessment Reporting Format for Substance Abusing Offenders (SRARF) to communicate to treatment providers an indication of the offender's risk of re-arrest.

Registered Providers

Probation shall consider for registration only those individuals or agencies who have a clear understanding of the connection between substance abuse and criminal offending and meet the following criteria:

1. Registered Providers must hold a valid license that includes in its scope of practice the ability to administer substance abuse evaluations and/or treatment.

2. Registered Providers must have completed an approved basic education course regarding criminogenic factors contributing to an offender's law violating behavior and participate in 12 continuing education hours every 2 years following. A curriculum list and further information regarding the basic education course requirements shall be available through Probation Administration and the Judicial Branch Web site.
3. Registered Providers must have an understanding of the model process and agree to the requirements of the **Standardized Model for Substance Abuse Services** for probation clients to include:
 - The Simple Screening Instrument (SSI)
 - The Standardized Risk Assessment Reporting Format for Substance Abusing Offenders (SRARF)
 - The Nebraska Standardized Reporting Format for Substance Abuse Evaluations for all Justice Referrals
 - Substance Abuse Services for Adult Criminal Justice Clients Continuum of Care
 - Use The Addiction Severity Index (ASI) for adult offenders or the Comprehensive Adolescent Severity Inventory (CASI) for juvenile offenders to assist in appropriate data collection and objective placement level of treatment recommendations
 - Use a validated assessment tool developed and approved for assisting in the diagnosis of addiction
 - Use the Nebraska Standardized Reporting Format for Substance Abuse Evaluation
 - Register their services prior to delivery in a database and provide data from those services in accordance with all confidentiality requirements
 - Provide services in accordance with defined levels of care and minimum standards
4. Registered Providers may be entitled to a direct payment for delivery of a substance abuse service depending on the eligibility of the offender referred for service. The criteria for offender eligibility are determined by Probation Administration and payment for services is coordinated through the Fee for Service Voucher Program.
5. Providers may register their services, at no cost, with Probation Administration's office. Application forms and a complete listing of Registered Providers will be posted on the Judicial Branch website in the near future.

Evaluations

Providers agree to use the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) for adult offenders or the Comprehensive Adolescent Severity Inventory (CASI) for juvenile offenders to assist in appropriate data collection and objective placement levels of care recommendations.

Treatment Programs

Providers agree to standardized levels of care ensuring offenders will receive appropriate treatment.

Nebraska Supreme Court Rule Regarding Use of Standardized Model
for Delivery of Substance Abuse Services

**Nebraska Supreme Court Rule Regarding Use of Standardized Model
for Delivery of Substance Abuse Services**

Substance abuse evaluations and treatment referrals for adult felony drug offenders ordered by the courts of the State of Nebraska, or by judges presiding over non-probation-based programs or services such as a drug court or other similar specialized programs as defined herein, shall comply with the minimum standards established by the Standardized Model for Delivery of Substance Abuse Services as promulgated by the Nebraska Supreme Court Office of Probation Administration, set forth in Appendix A of this rule, if all or any portion of the cost for such evaluation or treatment referral is reimbursed by funds provided pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 29-2262.07 or state funds appropriated to the Community Corrections Council for substance abuse treatment which is made available by the Council to Probation Administration. Nothing in this rule shall preclude an offender from obtaining, at his or her own expense, additional substance abuse evaluations or treatment referrals which may or may not comply with the minimum standards referred to herein.

For purposes of this rule, non-probation-based programs and services shall mean those programs and services defined and authorized by Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 29-2246(12) and 29-2252(16) which are operating pursuant to an interlocal agreement with state probation.

The Supreme Court recommends the use of the Standardized Model for all other offenders in Nebraska courts when substance abuse evaluations and treatment referrals are ordered.

Adopted by the Nebraska Supreme Court November 30, 2005, to be effective January 1, 2006.